POSTGRADUATE LIAISON COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

INTERPRETATION

In this Terms of Reference, unless context otherwise indicates:

* “Departmental Representative” means the duly elected postgraduate class representatives of the various academic departments within each Faculty at Rhodes University.
* “PGLC” means the Postgraduate Liaison Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Research Committee.
* “Postgraduate” means a student registered for a postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate, Honours, Masters or Doctoral Degree, at Rhodes University
* “Research Committee” means the Rhodes University Research Committee.
* “SRC” means the Rhodes University Student Representative Council.
* “Student” means a postgraduate student registered at Rhodes University, unless indicated otherwise.
1. NAME AND MEMBERSHIP
	1. This body shall be named the Postgraduate Liaison Committee, or abbreviated to PGLC.
	2. All registered postgraduate students at Rhodes University shall be eligible for election onto the PGLC, except
* those on academic probation or serving disciplinary charges of more than 50 hours; and
* those who have been judged to have made unsatisfactory progress without extenuating circumstances as indicated by the Dean of their faculty.
1. PROVENANCE AND ACCOUNTABLITY
	1. The PGLC is a sub-committee of the Research Committee.
	2. This body receives financial and institutional support from the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research and Development, and the Research Office.
	3. The PGLC is directly accountable to the Research Committee.
	4. A representative of the PGLC attends Research Committee meetings.
	5. The PGLC coordinates its activities with the Director: Postgraduate Studies
2. MANDATE AND OBJECTIVES
	1. The PGLC is primarily charged with furthering the research interests of postgraduate students within the University, and representing the postgraduate constituency in the research committee.
	2. The PGLC, in liaising with the relevant role-players and in particular the Centre for Postgraduate Studies, will contribute to the development and offering of the postgraduate orientation programme, will coordinate the annual interdisciplinary postgraduate conference, and will contribute to other research initiatives to complement and enhance students’ research experience.
	3. The PGLC aims:
* to promote a culture of research and academic rigor;
* to advance the postgraduate agenda at all levels of the university and in all university spaces;
* to address postgraduate research issues in various forums on behalf of its constituency;
* to monitor the progression of the postgraduate agenda at Rhodes University and to actively play a role in shaping its course; and
* to communicate regularly with its constituency with regard to relevant postgraduate issues and CPGS Events.
1. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
	1. The Committee shall comprise:
* elected postgraduate representatives from each academic department or centre, where relevant representative from each qualification may be elected [departments should follow their own procedure in electing their PGLC representative(s)].
* SRC postgraduate representative
1. FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEE
	1. The committee shall:
* Be answerable to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research
* Attend two meetings per year: a planning meeting in the first quarter and an AGM in the third or fourth quarter
* A member of the PGLC will attend all research committee meetings
* Communicate CPGS events to their department
* Work with CPGS to coordinate the annual postgraduate conference
* Attend any other special meetings as may be called
1. TERM OF OFFICE
	1. PGLC members shall serve a period of an academic year.
	2. If a PGLC member steps down the relevant academic department or centre is responsible for placing another representative.

This PGLC Terms of Reference was updated in 2023 and approved at the Research Committee meeting of 29 May 2023.